



State of Louisiana

Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Christina Stephens
christina.stephens@la.gov
225.603.3896

GOHSEP Crisis Action Team Monitoring Tropical Storm Isaac

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Crisis Action Team at the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is activated and monitoring Tropical Storm Isaac throughout the weekend, as the storm moves into the Gulf of Mexico.

As of 2 p.m., the National Weather Service puts the track for Tropical Storm Isaac entering the Gulf of Mexico on Monday, potentially making landfall somewhere on the Gulf Coast on Wednesday, possibly between Mobile, Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. A portion of Louisiana is in the "cone of uncertainty," the area where forecasters project the storm could make landfall, per the National Weather Service.

GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis said, “Though it is still too early to know how Isaac will impact Louisiana, we encourage our citizens to spend this weekend getting prepared for tropical weather early next week. Check to make sure you have supplies like water, batteries, flashlights and medications on hand, walk around the outside of your home to pick up or secure any objects that might fly around in strong wind and check on your neighbors, family and friends to make sure they are safe and ready if a storm comes our way. As always, we hope for the best and prepare for the worst. It’s never too early to get a game plan for you and your family.”

The National Weather Service projects Tropical Storm Isaac will ultimately strengthen to a weak Category One hurricane. The track and strength of the storm ultimately will be affected by how the storm fares as it moves over Cuba. Even if the storm does not make landfall in Louisiana, parts of Southeast Louisiana could feel strong winds and see rain.

GOHSEP staff will be participating in regular briefings with the National Weather Service and will also host regular briefings with coastal parish leaders in southeast Louisiana. Should the track change, GOHSEP stands ready to open its Emergency Operations Center.

PREPAREDNESS TIPS:

The state of Louisiana encourages all citizens to assess risks to their family’s safety to plan accordingly, including creating an emergency kit of necessary supplies and documents that your family will need, readying your home for severe weather, locating a place to stay if there is an evacuation of your community and identifying information sources to help your family make decisions about its safety.

An emergency kit should include three-to-five days’ worth of food, water and medications and clothing for your entire family, an evacuation map, a first aid kit, battery powered flashlights, lantern and radios and extra batteries. Kits should also include chargers and extra batteries for cell phones.

Make sure to pack vital records and important documents like birth certificates, driver’s licenses or identification cards, social security cards, proof of residence and copies of insurance policies in a portable waterproof container.

To become digitally prepared, save important phone numbers in your cell phone, including your parish Emergency Operations Center, the Louisiana State Police Road Closure Hotline and your electric company. You can find a list of important numbers on www.getagameplan.org. You should also save important Website addresses, like <http://emergency.louisiana.gov>, in the Internet browser on your smartphone.

For more tips and a full list of supplies to include in an emergency kit, visit www.getagameplan.org. Citizens can get updates directly from GOHSEP if they “Like” the agency’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/gohsep and by following @GOHSEP on

Twitter. Citizens with iPhones and iPads can download the GOHSEP “Get a Game Plan” and “Get a Business Plan” apps in the Apple store, by visiting the links on <http://getagameplan.org> or searching for “GOHSEP” in the Apple app store on their devices.

The Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is charged with leading and supporting Louisiana and its Citizens in the preparation for, response to and recovery from all emergencies and disasters. For more information, visit <http://gohsep.la.gov> or follow the agency on Twitter as @GOHSEP and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gohsep.

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